Numb. 134

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Quis Talia fando,
Myrmidonum Dolopumve, aut duri Miles Ulyſſei,
Temperet a Lachrymis. ——— Virg.

From *Tueſday February* 14. to *Thurſday February* 16. 1709.

Sheer-Lane, February 15.

I WAS awakened very early this Morning by the diſtant Crowing of a Cock, which I thought had the fineſt Pipe I ever heard. He ſeemed to me to ſtrain his Voice more than ordinary, as if he deſigned to make himſelf heard to the remoteſt Corner of this Lane. Having entertained my ſelf a little before I went to Bed with a Diſcourſe on the Tranſmigration of Men into other Animals, I could not but fancy that this was the Soul of ſome drowſy Bell-man who uſed to ſleep upon his Poſt, for which he was condemned to do Penance in Feathers, and diſtinguiſh the ſeveral Watches of the Night under the Outſide of a Cock. While I was thinking of the Condition of this poor Bell-man in Maſquerade, I heard a great Knocking at my Door, and was ſoon after told by my Maid, That my worthy Friend, the tall black Gentleman, who frequents the Coffee-houſes hereabouts, deſired to ſpeak with me. This ancient *Pythagorean*, who has as much Honeſty as any Man living, but good Nature to an Exceſs, brought me the following Petition, which I am apt to believe he penned himſelf, the Petitioner not being able to expreſs his Mind in Paper under his preſent Form, however famous he might have been for writing Verſes when he was in his original Shape.

To Iſaac Bickerſtaff *Eſq; Cenſor of* Great-Britain.

The humble Petition of *Job Chanticleer*, in Behalf of himſelf and many other poor Sufferers in the ſame Condition,

Sheweth,

'THat whereas your Petitioner is truly deſcended of the antient Family of the *Chanticleers* at *Cock-Hall* near *Rumford* in *Eſſex*, it has been his 'Misfortune to come into the mercenary Hands of 'a certain ill diſpoſed Perſon, commonly called an 'Higler, who, under the cloſe Confinement of a 'Pannier, has conveyed him and many others up 'to *London*: But hearing by chance of your Wor'ſhip's great Humanity towards Robin-Red-breaſts 'and Tom-tits, he is emboldened to beſeech you to 'take his deplorable Condition into your tender 'Conſideration, who otherwiſe muſt ſuffer (with 'many Thouſands more as innocent as himſelf) 'that inhuman Barbarity of a *Shrove-Tueſday* Perſe'cution. We humbly hope that our Courage and 'Vigilance may plead for us on this Occaſion.

'Your poor Petitioner moſt earneſtly implores 'your immediate Protection from the Inſolence of 'the Rabble, the Batteries of Catſticks, and a pain'ful, lingering Death.

And your Petitioner. &c.

From my Coop in Clare-Market, *Feb.* 13. 1709.

Upon Delivery of this Petition, the worthy Gentleman who preſented it, told me the Cuſtoms of many wiſe Nations of the *Eaſt* through which he had travelled; That nothing was more frequent than to ſee a Dervees lay out a whole Year's Income in the Redemption of Larks and Linnets that had unhappily fallen into the Hands of Bird-Catchers; That it was alſo uſual to run between a Dog and a Bull, to keep them from hurting one another, or to loſe the Uſe of a Limb in parting a Couple of furious Maſtiffs. He then inſiſted upon the Ingratitude and Diſingenuity of treating in this Manner a neceſſary and domeſtick Animal, that has made the whole Houſe keep good Hours, and called up the Cook Maid for Five Years together. What would a *Turk* ſay, continued he, ſhould he hear, that it is a common Entertainment in a Nation which pretends to be one of the moſt civilized in *Europe*, to tie an innocent Animal to a Stake, and put him to an ignominious Death, who has perhaps been the Guardian and Proveditor of a poor Family, as long as he was able to get his Miſtreſſes with Egg.

I thought what this Gentleman ſaid was very reaſonable; and have often wondered, that we do not lay aſide a Cuſtom which makes us appear barbarous to Nations much more rude and unpoliſhed than our ſelves. Some *French* Writers have repreſented this Diverſion of the Common People much to our Diſadvantage, and imputed it to natural Fierceneſs and Cruelty of Temper, as they do ſome other Entertainments peculiar to our Nation, I mean thoſe elegant Diverſions of Bull-baiting, and Prize-fighting, with the like ingenious Recreations of the Bear-Garden. I wiſh I knew how to anſwer this Reproach which is caſt upon us, and excuſe the Death of ſo many innocent Cocks, Bulls, Dogs, and Bears, as have been ſet together by the Ears, or died untimely Deaths only to make us Sport.

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It will be ſaid, That theſe are the Entertainments of Common People. It is true; but they are the Entertainments of no other Common People. Beſides, I am afraid there is a Tincture of the ſame ſavage Spirit in the Diverſions of thoſe of higher Rank and more refined Reliſh. *Rapine* obſerves, That the *Engliſh* Theatre very much delights in Bloodſhed, which he likewiſe repreſents as an Indication of our Tempers. I muſt own, there is ſomething very horrid in the publick Executions of an *Engliſh* Tragedy. Stabbing and Poiſoning, which are performed behind the Scenes in other Nations, muſt be done openly among us to gratify the Audience.

When poor *Sandford* was upon the Stage, I have ſeen him groaning upon a Wheel, ſtuck with Daggers, impaled alive, calling his Executioners, with a dying Voice, Cruel Dogs, and Villains! And all this to pleaſe his judicious Spectators, who were wonderfully delighted with ſeeing a Man in Torment ſo well acted. The Truth of it is, the Politeneſs of our *Engliſh* Stage in Regard to Decorum is very extraordinary: We act Murders to ſhow our Intrepidity, and Adulteries to ſhow our Gallantry: Both of them are frequent in our moſt taking Plays, with this Difference only, that the firſt are done in Sight of the Audience, and the other wrought up to ſuch an Height upon the Stage, that they are almoſt put in Execution before the Actors can get behind the Scenes.

I would not have it thought, that there is juſt Ground for thoſe Conſequences which our Enemies draw againſt us from theſe Practices; but, methinks, one would be ſorry for any Manner of Occaſion for ſuch Miſrepreſentations of us. The Virtues of Tenderneſs, Compaſſion, and Humanity, are thoſe by which Men are diſtinguiſhed from Brutes, as much as by Reaſon it ſelf; and it would be the greateſt Reproach to a Nation to diſtinguiſh it ſelf from all others by any Defect in theſe particular Virtues. For which Reaſons, I hope that my dear Countrymen will no longer expoſe themſelves by an Effuſion of Blood, whether it be of Theatrical Heroes, Cocks, or any other innocent Animals, which we are not obliged to ſlaughter for our Safety, Convenience, or Nouriſhment. Where any of theſe Ends are not ſerved in the Deſtruction of a living Creature, I cannot but pronounce it a great Piece of Cruelty, if not a kind of Murder.

Advertiſements.

*** PROPOSALS for Printing the LUCUBRATIONS of Iſaac Bickerſtaff Eſq; by Subſcriptions, in Two Volumes in Octavo, on a Large Character, and Fine Royal Paper, are to be ſeen, and Subſcriptions taken, at Charles Lillie's, a Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford Buildings in the Strand, and John Morphew's near Stationers-Hall. All Perſons that deſign to ſubſcribe to this Work, are deſired to ſend their Subſcriptions before the 25th Inſtant, it being intended to print no more than what ſhall be ſubſcribed for, and to begin on the 27th, in order to have it publiſhed before Eaſter.

*** This Day is publiſhed, Sir Orlando Bridgman's Conveyances, with large Additions, and a new Table. Sold by J. Walthoe in the Middle-Temple-Cloyſters. For whom were lately printed, The new Returna Brevium, in 8vo. The Impartial Lawyer, in 8vo. The Rules and Orders of the Common Pleas, in 8vo. and the modern Conveyancer, or Conveyancing Improved. In 3 Vol. in 8vo.

MEn's *Morning-Gowns, of rich Silks, Stuffs, Calicoes, &c. (being the Goods of a Perſon that failed) to be diſpoſed of at very low Rates; may be ſeen at the Olive-Tree and Still within three Doors of Young Man's Coffee-houſe, againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs. The Prices being ſet on each Gown. Catalogues of the Particulars may be had at the Place of Sale.*

New Muſick this Day publiſhed,

*** All the Songs ſet to Muſick in the laſt new Opera called Almahide, both in Italian and Engliſh, with their Symphonies, as they are performed at the Queen's Theatre. There is likewiſe reprinted, the Opera's of Pyrrhus and Clotilda, with Symphonies, engraved in a fair Character. Printed for J. Walſh Servant in Ordinary to Her Majeſty, and P. Randal at the Harp and Haurboy near Somerſet-Houſe in the Strand, and J. Hare, Muſical Inſtrument-maker, at the Viol and Flute near the Royal Exchange.

In a Month will be publiſhed,

*** The Compleat Hiſtory of Europe from 1600 to this Time, in 14 Vol. viz. All the laſt Century, in 5 Vol. containing all the publick and ſecret Tranſactions therein, the Characters of the great Men, as done by my Lord Clarendon; as alſo of the ſame Perſons done by Sir P. Warwick, Mr. Whitlock, Mr. Ruſhworth, &c. and of thoſe abroad written by Nani, Puffendorf, &c. the Hiſtory of Europe for 1701, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1705, 1706, 1707, 1708, and 1709. In all 14 Vol. Printed for H. Rhodes by Fleet-Bridge, J. Nicholſon in Little Britain, and A. Bell at the Croſs-Keys in Cornhil. Note, there are not above 100 compleat Sets of the above Volumes (and thoſe for 1702, 1703, and 1704, are reprinted to make ſo many); ſo all Gentlemen, Bookſellers in the Country, &c. that intend to have compleat Sets, are deſired to order them by the Firſt of March next, when the Hiſtory of Europe for 1709. will be publiſhed that they may come together.

WIlliam Weſt, Mercer, lately Partner with George Noble and William Oſwin, at the Peacock in the New-Exchange, is removed to the Black-Moor's Head in the Exchange, in the ſame Walk, and Partner with Robert Sutton.

*** This Day is publiſh'd, The Law of Actions: Being an exact, brief and methodical Collection of all Adjudg'd Caſes out of all the Reports of the Law to this Day; and likewiſe from Roll's Abridgement, correcting the Method thereof: By which any particular Caſe may be preſently found, and the Reaſon that rules it render'd obvious to the meaneſt Capacity. With the Subſtance of the Pleadings in thoſe Actions. Printed for John Hartley between the Two Temple-Gates in Fleet-ſtreet. Pr. 3 s. 6 d. Where any Perſon may have ready Money for any Library or Parcel of Books.

Juſt publiſh'd,

*** A Collection of the ſeveral Statutes and Parts of Statutes now in Force relating to High Treaſon and Miſpriſion. Printed by Order of the Houſe of Lords. An exact Abridgment of all the Statutes in Force and Uſe, from the Beginning of Magna Charta to the 15th of April, 1708. in 3 Vol. with new Tables. The Terms of the Law, or certain difficult and obſcure Words and Terms of the Common Laws and Statutes of this Realm, now in Uſe, expounded and explained, with many Additions never before printed, 8vo. Two Dialogues, between a Doctor of Divinity and a Student in the Laws of England, of the Grounds of the ſaid Laws, and of Conſcience, 12mo. All ſold by T. Ward in the Inner-Temple-Lane.

*** A Sermon preached before the Hon. Houſe of Commons at the Church of St. Margaret, Weſtminſter, on Tueſday Nov. 22. 1709. being the Day of Thankſgiving for the ſignal and glorious Victory obtained near Mons, and for the other great Succeſſes of Her Majeſty's Arms this laſt Year under the Command of the Duke of Marlborough. By Samuel Clark, D. D. Rector of St. James's, Weſtminſter, and Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majeſty. Printed for James Knapton at the Crown in St. Paul's Churchyard, 8vo. Pr. 2 d. Where may be had the Doctor's Sermons at Mr. Boyle's Lectures, for the Years 1704, and 1705. his 3 practical Eſſays, his Paraphraſe on the Four Evangeliſts, his Letter to Mr. Dodwell, and his Defences of it, his Sermon before the Queen, and his Sermon at the Lady Cook's Funeral.

THeſe are to acquaint the Lovers of Art, That there is an extraordinary Collection of Italian Drawings and Prints of the moſt eminent Painters and Gravers to be ſold by Hand, the loweſt Price being ſet on the Back-ſide of each; ſo that all Gentlemen will at Sight be informed of the Value. Note, that if any Perſon has either fine Drawings, Prints, Pictures, or other Rarities, they may be diſpoſed of in the ſame Manner, paying Poundage for ſuch as are ſold. There is conſtant Attendance from 10 of the Clock in the Morning to 5 in the Afternoon, at the Houſe on the Right Hand going up to the Houſe of Lords in the Old Palace-yard, Weſtminſter.

CHocolate with Sugar, 12 s. 8 d. a Pound. All Nut 24 s. 6 d. as good as any ſold at the ſame Prizes. By Lawrence Green at his Warehouſe at the 2 green Poſts in Dean-ſtreet near Fetter-Lane. Note the ſame Chocolate as I have lately ſold at 22 s. 6 d. and 32 s. 6 d. a Pound, I now ſell for 32 s. and 22 s. a Pound. Alſo the beſt of Coffee, fine Green, and Bohee Tea, at the loweſt Prices; and fine Spaniſh Snuff, at 4 s. a Pound.

RIght ſuperfine Brazil Snuff, with the beſt Colour and Flavour, is to be ſold at the Perfumer's Shop, at the Gun over-againſt the Playhouſe in the Haymarket, as follows: Such who buy a Pound ſhall have it for 33 s. and but half a Pound, or a Quarter, after the Rate of 36 s. per Pound, which is but 2 s. and 3 d. per Ounce.

THIS Chryſtal Coſmetick, approv'd of by the Worthy Dr. Paul Chamberline, viz. by waſhing Morning or Evening, cures all red Faces, proceeding from what Cauſe ſoever: It takes off all Morphews, Pimples, and Freckles; it's of a ſoft Nature, cleanſing and adorning the Face and Hands of both Sexes in a very beautiful Manner; and may be us'd with as much Safety as Milk, having in it no Mercury (ſo frequently made Uſe of) or any other Thing that may be prejudicial to the Body, being the beſt of this Nature now extant. The Price of the largeſt Bottle 6 s. the leſſer 3 s. To be ſold at Mr. Allcroft's at the Blue-Coat Boy, a Toyſhop, againſt the Royal-Exchange, Cornhil; at Mr. Jackſon's, a Toyſhop, the Corner of Wood-ſtreet, in Cheapſide; at Mrs. Stephens's, the Comb under St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleet-ſtreet; at Mr. Brecknock's, Milliner over againſt St. James's-ſtreet, Piccadilly. Note, to prevent Counterfeits, each ſingle Bottle with Directions, is tied and ſealed with this Coat of Arms, being a Frett, with a Lion Rampant in a Canton.